

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

*Please amend the claims as follows:*

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:  
an image data processing section for executing at least one image processing operation with respect to digital image data;  
a database; and  
a condition setting section; and  
wherein said condition setting section comprising comprises:  
a set-up subsection for automatically setting initial values for image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation; based on the digital image data; and  
~~a set value changing subsection for selecting an image processing~~  
condition coding section which sets in response to customized requests from a customer a plurality of changed values for image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation from among plural levels and/or plural combinations of typically preset image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation, as well as encodes said set plurality of changed values for image processing conditions in batch mode in response to the customized requests from the customer and which allow said coded plurality of changed values for image processing conditions together with customer information to register into said database; and

a set value changing subsection for changing the initial values for image processing conditions which have been automatically set by the set-up subsection into the set plurality of changed values for the selected plurality of image processing conditions when said plurality of changed values for image processing conditions have been set, or into the plurality of changed values for image processing conditions which have been read out from said database in response to the customized requests from the customer when said plurality of changed values for image processing conditions have been registered into said database in response to the customized requests from the customer,

wherein said image data processing section performs said at least one image processing operation based on the plurality of changed values for image processing conditions in response to the customized requests from the customer.

2. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

said at least one image processing operation includes ~~any~~ at least one of a sharpness processing operation, a gradation processing operation, a density processing operation, a color processing operation, a shielding-print processing operation, a partial correction processing operation, a logogram/character-synthesizing process operation, and an edging process operation; and

said image processing conditions include conditions selected from at least one group consisting of execution/no execution, strong/weak, and deep/light of one image processing operation.

3. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

an embedding section for embedding said plurality of changed values of ~~said plurality of~~ for image processing conditions into output image data which has been processed based on said plurality of changed values of ~~said plurality of~~ for image processing conditions.

4. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

~~an image processing condition coding device for encoding said plurality of image processing conditions in batch mode; and wherein~~

~~said image processing unit performs said at least one image processing operation based on coded information which said plurality of image processing conditions is coded in the batch mode~~

a manipulating unit for inputting said customer information,

wherein said plurality of changed values for image processing conditions for said at least one image processing operation are selected from

among the plural levels and/or the plural combinations of typically preset image processing conditions for said at least one image processing operation in response to the customized requests from the customer by said manipulating unit, and

said image processing condition coding section sets said selected plurality of changed values for image processing conditions as said plurality of changed values for image processing conditions in response to the customized requests from the customer.

5. (Currently Amended) A customized printing system comprising:
- an image input apparatus for inputting therein an image as digital image data;
  - an image processing apparatus comprising:
    - an image data processing section for executing at least one image processing operation with respect to digital image data;
    - a database; and
    - a condition setting section; and
    - an image output apparatus for outputting the image-processed image data as output image data,
  - wherein said condition setting section comprising comprises:

a set-up subsection for automatically setting initial values for image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation; based on the digital image data; and

~~a set value changing subsection for selecting an image processing condition coding section which sets in response to customized requests from a customer~~ a plurality of changed values for image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation from among plural levels and/or plural combinations of typically preset image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation, as well as encodes said set plurality of changed values for image processing conditions in batch mode in response to the customized requests from the customer and which allow said coded plurality of changed values for image processing conditions together with customer information to register into said database; and

a set value changing subsection for changing the initial values for image processing conditions which have been automatically set by the set-up subsection into the set plurality of changed values for the selected plurality of image processing conditions when said plurality of changed values for image processing conditions have been set, or into the plurality of changed values for image processing conditions which have been read out from said database in response to the customized requests from the customer when said plurality of

changed values for image processing conditions have been registered into said database in response to the customized requests from the customer,

wherein said image data processing section performs on said digital image data said at least one image processing operation based on the plurality of changed values for image processing conditions in response to the customized requests from the customer.

6. (Currently Amended) The customized printing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein:

said at least one image processing operation includes ~~any~~ at least one of a sharpness processing operation, a gradation processing operation, a density processing operation, a color processing operation, a shielding-print processing operation, a partial correction processing operation, a logogram/character-synthesizing process operation, and an edging process operation; and

said image processing conditions include conditions selected from at least one of the group consisting of execution/no execution, strong/weak, and deep/light of one image processing operation.

7. (Currently Amended) The customized printing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said image processing apparatus further comprises:

an embedding section for embedding said plurality of changed values of ~~said plurality of~~ for image processing conditions into said output image data which has been processed based on said plurality of changed values of ~~said plurality of~~ for image processing conditions.

8. (Currently Amended) The customized printing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said image processing apparatus further comprises:

~~said image processing unit performs said at least one image processing operation based on coded information which said plurality of image processing conditions is coded in the batch mode~~

~~said image data processing apparatus performs said at least one image processing operation based on coded information which said plurality of image processing conditions is coded in the batch mode~~

a manipulating unit for inputting said customer information,

wherein said plurality of changed values for image processing conditions for said at least one image processing operation are selected from among the plural levels and/or the plural combinations of typically preset image processing conditions for said at least one image processing operation in response to the customized requests from the customer by said manipulating unit, and

said image processing condition coding section sets said selected plurality of changed values for image processing conditions as said plurality of changed values for image processing conditions in response to the customized requests from the customer.

9. (Currently Amended) The customized printing system as claimed in claim 5, ~~further comprising:~~

a wherein said database ~~which~~ registers thereinto both a film identification number and image processing conditions with respect to an image photographed on a photographic film corresponding to said film identification number.

10. (Original) The customized printing system as claimed in claim 9, wherein said database is to further register information related to a customer in connection with the image processing conditions as to a printing order of said customer.

11. (Original) The customized printing system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said database is connected to a plurality of other databases via a communication network, whereby the image processing conditions related to



said customer, which is saved in said other databases, can be utilized based on the information related to said customer.

12. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for performing at least one image processing operation with respect to digital image data, said image processing apparatus comprising:

- a data processing section;

- a Log converter;

- a prescan memory;

- a fine scan memory, wherein the data processing section and the Log converter are operatively connected to the prescan memory and the fine scan memory;

- a prescan data processing section, wherein the prescan data processing section is operatively connected to the prescan memory;

- a database;

- a condition setting section, wherein said condition setting section comprises:

- a set-up subsection for automatically setting initial values for image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation, based on the digital image data; and

an image processing condition coding subsection ~~for encoding the image processing conditions in batch mode in response to customized requests from a customer, and~~

~~a set value changing subsection for selecting which sets in response to customized requests from a customer~~ a plurality of new image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation from among plural levels and/or plural combinations of typically preset image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation, as well as encodes said set plurality of new image processing conditions in batch mode in response to the customized requests from the customer and which allow said coded plurality of new image processing conditions together with customer information to register into said database; and

a set value changing subsection for changing the initial values for image processing conditions which have been automatically set by the set-up subsection into changed values for the selected set plurality of new image processing conditions when said changed values have been set, or into the changed values which have been read out from said database in response to the customized requests from the customer when said changed values have been registered into said database in response to the customized requests from the customer; and

a fine scan data processing section, wherein the changed values from the set value changing subsection are sent to the fine scan data processing section for executing the at least one image processing operation based on said changed values in response to the customized requests from the customer.

13. (Currently Amended) A customized printing system comprising:  
an image input apparatus for outputting digital image data; and  
an image processing apparatus for performing at least one image processing operation with respect to the digital image data, said image processing apparatus further comprising:  
a data processing section;  
a log converter;  
a prescan memory;  
a fine scan memory, wherein the data processing section and the Log converter are operatively connected to the prescan memory and the fine scan memory;  
a prescan data processing section, wherein the prescan data processing section is operatively connected to the prescan memory;  
a database;

a condition setting section, wherein said condition setting section comprises:

a set-up subsection for automatically setting initial values for image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation; based on the digital image data; and

an image processing condition coding subsection ~~for encoding the image processing conditions in batch mode in response to customized requests from a customer, and~~

~~a set value changing subsection for selecting~~ which sets in response to customized requests from a customer a plurality of new image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation from among plural levels and/or plural combinations of typically preset image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation, as well as encodes said set plurality of new image processing conditions in batch mode in response to the customized requests from the customer and which allow said coded plurality of new image processing conditions together with customer information to register into said database; and

a set value changing subsection for changing the initial values for image processing conditions which have been automatically set by the set-up subsection into changed values for the ~~selected~~ set plurality of new image processing conditions when said changed values have been set, or into the

changed values which have been read out from said database in response to the customized requests from the customer when said changed values have been registered into said database in response to the customized requests from the customer;

a fine scan data processing section, wherein the changed values from the set value changing subsection are sent to the fine scan data processing section for executing the at least one image processing operation based on said changed values in response to the customized requests from the customer; and

an image output apparatus for outputting image-processed image data output from the fine scan data processing section as output image data.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for creating a photoprint with a digital photoprinter, which comprises:

inputting an image to an image input apparatus;

outputting digital image data corresponding to the image from the image input apparatus to an image processing apparatus;

performing at least one image processing operation with respect to the digital image data with the image processing apparatus, wherein the performing of the at least one image processing operation apparatus further comprises,

automatically setting initial values for image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation based on the digital image data with a set-up subsection of the image processing apparatus,

~~encoding the image processing conditions in batch mode in response to customized requests from a customer with an image processing condition coding subsection of the image processing apparatus,~~

~~selecting~~ setting in response to customized requests from a customer a plurality of new image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation from among plural levels and/or plural combinations of typically preset image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation, as well as encoding said set plurality of new image processing conditions in batch mode in response to the customized requests from the customer, and allowing said coded plurality of new image processing conditions together with customer information to register into said database; and

changing the initial values for image processing conditions which have been automatically set by the set-up subsection into changed values for the ~~selected~~ set plurality of new image processing conditions with a set value changing subsection of the image processing apparatus when said changed values have been set, or into the changed values which have been read out from said database in response to the customized requests from the customer

with the set value changing subsection when said changed values have been registered into said database in response to the customized requests from the customer.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 14, further comprising sending the changed values from the set value changing subsection to a fine scan data processing section for executing the at least one image processing operation based on said changed values in response to the customized requests from the customer.

16. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 15, further comprising outputting image data output from the fine scan data processing section to an image output apparatus.